

**CLINICAL OBSTETRICS**—Benjamin Tenney, M.D., Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Harvard Medical School; Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, The Boston City Hospital; and Brian Little, M.D., F.R.C.S. (C), Associate in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Harvard Medical School; Associate Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, The Boston City Hospital; Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Boston Lying-in Hospital. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1961. 440 pages, \$8.50.

This compact volume contains well-written clinical discussions of twenty-four topics selected from the larger array of subjects usually found in a standard textbook. It assumes a general background of obstetric knowledge on the part of the reader and is concerned in the main with current solutions for abnormal obstetrical problems, particularly in the light of a wide experience at the Boston City Hospital. The authors have aimed their remarks at the physician in private practice, who is likely to encounter abnormal obstetrical cases in such small numbers that he is unable personally to test various therapeutic procedures and sort the good from the poor. He needs to get from those in large teaching institutions the solid kind of advice that has withstood the test of clinical application.

In addition to strictly obstetrical matters, there are chapters on heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, pyelonephritis, blood incompatibilities and endocrine therapy in pregnancy. The style of writing is pleasant and lucid, and the views expressed are the sane, sensible, conservative ones to be anticipated from a New England source. There are relatively few illustrations, but the rather simple line drawings prepared especially for this book are both artistically excellent and didactically effective. Bibliographic lists have been omitted, although there are occasional references in footnotes to current papers of outstanding value.

This is on the whole a splendid book and can be recommended to all who practice obstetrics. It is small enough to tackle while in the supine position, and thus should be particularly helpful reading for house officers who are lying in wait for the next delivery.

CHARLES E. McLENNAN, M.D.

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**PSYCHIATRY—Biological and Social**—Ian Gregory, M.A., M.D. (Camb.), P.Psych. (Tor.), M.P.H. (Mich.), Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, and Coordinator of Undergraduate Education in Psychiatry, University of Minnesota Medical School. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1961. 577 pages, \$10.00.

This book is different from most textbooks of psychiatry in being composed of two parts: (1) Dealing with general principles; (2) with specific syndromes.

In the section on general principle Dr. Gregory deals with such varied topics as the definition of psychiatry, psychoanalysis and psychology, defense mechanisms, symptoms and syndrome, frequency and distribution of psychiatric disorders, various types of treatment, etiological factors (including some interesting data from studies of heredity and of social and cultural factors), psychiatry and the law, prevention and research.

In the section on specific syndromes, the author has organized his material relating to the various psychiatric disorders in an interesting way under such headings as classification, frequency and distribution, family history, personal history, mental examination, psychological evaluation, somatic investigations, differential diagnosis, treatment and etiology. There is an absence of the detailed, illustrative case histories and description of patients usually found in textbooks of psychiatry.

Dr. Gregory has carefully avoided emphasizing the approach of one or another school of psychiatry and has consistently maintained an eclectic approach. He has achieved his expressed intention of representing a balanced synthesis

of American and European viewpoints and of presenting a great amount of material in a "scientific and systematic, descriptive and dynamic" manner that is designed to include both directive-organic and analytic psychological approach as to treatment.

His style is simple and his language clear; but his ambitious goal to wish to remain "scientific" leaves many questions unanswered and may disappoint those who are looking for specific answers. This, however, is more a reflection of the state, or stage, of psychiatric knowledge than a failure that can be attributed to the author.

Some chapters, like the one on marital problems, are weak, and may be criticized with some justification as "superficial."

As a textbook, it will not meet the needs of all departments of psychiatry, but it can certainly be used as a reference book by medical students and physicians alike who will find much of value and interest in it.

NORMAN Q. BRILL, M.D.

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**EYE SYMPTOMS IN BRAIN TUMORS**—Alfred Huber, M.D., Privat Dozent for Ophthalmology at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. With a foreword by Prof. H. Krayenbuhl, Director of the Neurosurgical Clinic, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland. Translated by Stefan Van Wien, M.D., Associate, Department of Ophthalmology, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois. With a foreword to the English translation by Derrick Vail, B.A., M.D., D.Oph. (Oxon.), F.A.C.S., F.R.C.S. (Hon.), Professor and Director, Department of Ophthalmology, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Mo., 1961. 329 pages, \$16.00.

The book is an English translation of Huber's book which was originally published in German. As pointed out by Vail in his foreword to the English edition, Huber, a neurologist and ophthalmologist, is a distinguished member of the remarkable group of Swiss ophthalmologists whose names are known throughout the world.

It was in Prof. Krayenbuhl's well-known neurosurgical clinic in Zurich that Dr. Huber obtained the necessary experience to write this excellent book. It is difficult to contain one's enthusiasm for a book of such quality. The author, Dr. Alfred Huber, is, in his field, an uncontested authority. Throughout the book can be recognized the experience and thoughtful judgment of a man who has worked in and has been intimately associated with one of the largest and most advanced neurological clinics in the world. Dr. Huber's book deals specifically with neuro-ophthalmology of brain tumors. He has divided his material into five chapters. One chapter deals with the neuro-ophthalmological examination. The second chapter deals with general symptoms of increased intracranial pressure, a third deals with the neuro-ophthalmological contributions to localization of tumor-like problems (aneurysm, brain abscess, etc.). The fourth is on types of tumors and eye symptoms. The fifth is on pseudotumors.

The author's coverage of all the eye problems encountered by the ophthalmologist and neurosurgeon is fundamental. The section on the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of all aspects of papilledema is classic.

The translator, Stefan Van Wien, has given us the author's beautifully direct and concise style, and he has avoided the involved and often cumbersome sentences that so often are present in translations.

The format of the book is excellent with good, easily readable type. The illustrations are outstanding, especially the reproductions of what obviously were unusually good fundus photographs. The bibliography is voluminous, and the index is adequate. The book is a "must" to students and practitioners of neurosurgery, neurology and ophthalmology.

FREDERICK C. CORDES, M.D.